Poverty level

†5369. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that poverty level is continuously increasing day by day in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to take any concrete step to reduce poverty level;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The Planning Commission estimates poverty at national and state level from the large sample surveys on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five year. The latest two such surveys conducted in 1993-94 (NSS 50th round) and 1999-2000 (NSS 55th round) show a decline in poverty ratio from 35.97 per cent in 1993-94 to 26.10 per cent in 1999-2000.

(b) and (c) There is a three-pronged action to alleviate and reduce the poverty in the country. These are: (i) acceleration of economic growth, (ii) human, and social development through literacy, education, health, nutrition, meeting of the minimum needs, elevation of social and economic status of the weaker sections of the society, etc., and (iii) direct attack on poverty through employment and income generating programmes and assets-building for the poor.

Growth in Human Resource Development

†5370 SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of human resource development in the States has been distinct in the country during nineties;

(b) if so, what has been the annual rate of human resource development in each of the State during nineties;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is also a fact that the rate of human resource development in those States has been more where per capita income is more; and

(d) if not, the facts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) The National Human Development Report (NHDR) — 2001 prepared by the Planning Commission and released by the Prime Minister on April 23rd, 2002 has presented a Human Development Index (HDI) for all States and UTs for the early eighties (using data for 1981 to 1983) and the early nineties (using data for 1991 to 1993-94) and only for major States for 2001 due to the non-availability, so far, of the required data for all States/UTs from the Census 2001. The Report does not separately estimate yearly rates of growth in human development.

(c) and (d) From the analysis it turns out that for the economically better off States, as well as for the poor States, attainments on HDI and income levels show a direct correspondence. In other words, the poor States are also the States with relatively poor performance on HDI. Similarly, the economically better-off States are also the ones with relatively better performance on the HDI. However, the relation between the HDI and the level of development does not show any correspondence among the middle-income States.

Annual Growth Rate of GDP

†5371. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the annual growth rate of GDP during the Ninth Five Year Plan has been be less as compared to Eighth and Seventh Five Year Plans;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard; and

(c) the annual growth rate of GDP during each year of the Ninth Five Year Plan period and the value of GDP during the last year?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.